

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: JP Tremblay Legislation and Public Affairs 916-653-2192 1 November 2010

CAL VET DEPARTMENT SIGNS AGREEMENT TO TRAIN TRIBAL VETERAN REPRESENTATIVES

<u>SACRAMENTO</u> – The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) today signed an agreement with the AmVets Service Foundation to provide training for veteran service officers who will work specifically with Indian American Veterans who live in California. This is the first time in the history of the California Department of Veterans Affairs that it will train veteran services officers who will be tasked with outreach to veterans who live on tribal land and in rural communities throughout the state.



Left to Right, Carlos "Charlie" Ramos, State Commander of AmVets Department of California; Pete Ramirez, Vice President of the AmVets Service Foundation; Rocky Chavez, undersecretary for the CalVet Department; Pedro Molina, CalVet Assistant Secretary for Native American Veterans; and Richard Gonzalez, Executive Director for the American Indian Veterans of America.

BACKGROUND: This agreement will allow the CalVet Department to provide on-going training to the Tribal Veteran Representatives who will be employees of the AmVets Service Foundation. The TVRs will go out to rural communities and tribal lands throughout California and help connect the American Indian Veterans with the benefits and services that they have earned through their service in the United State Military.

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